



JUL 19 2001

REMARKS

TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

This amendment is offered in response to the Office Action of April 13, 2001. Marked up versions of the amended claims are included in an Appendix attached hereto.

The Applicant has enclosed a replacement page 22 with sufficient right-hand margin for the substitute specification.

Additionally, the Applicant has amended Claim 53 to recite an "h-shaped" rather than "H-shaped" fastener flanges. This amendment is made with a view toward future consideration of a divisional or other continuation application to pursue the "H-shaped" fastener flanges.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the above amendments obviate the Examiner's objections to the disclosure, specification and drawings and further obviate the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

The Examiner rejected Claim 52 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by the McMahon reference (U.S. Patent No. 4,909,017). Similarly, the Examiner rejected Claims 53-55 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the McMahon reference over the Weeks reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,092,684).

At the outset, Claim 52 has been canceled (as described, above this cancellation is without prejudice or disclaimer and

is with a view to filing a divisional or continuation application).

Similarly, with the amendment of Claim 53 to recite "h-shaped", rather than "H-shaped", it is respectfully submitted that the above identified rejection over 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is overcome.

For all of the reasons above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are in immediate condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw his rejections of the claims, to allow the claims, and to pass this application to early issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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